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COSTA MENDEZ SAYS UN RESOLUTION 'TOLERABLE'

PY272005 Buenos Aires International Service in English 1530 GMT 27 May 82

[Excerpts] The UN secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar, yesterday accepted the formal mandate of the Security Council to comply with what he described as a very difficult mission. He had been asked to renew efforts to get Argentina and Great Britain to agree on an immediate cease-fire in the Malvinas Islands.

Argentina's minister of foreign affairs, Dr Nicanor Costa Mendez, accepted as "tolerable" the draft resolution by virtue of which the United Nations secretary general will be given a 7-day mandate to find a solution to the Anglo-Argentine conflict. In a reference to the draft resolution originally presented by Ireland, and then slightly amended with the participation of representatives from Guyana, Jordan, Togo, Uganda, Zaire and Ireland, the minister said that he had read the text and he would say that it was not unacceptable, but tolerable. However, he added, since we are not members of the United Nations Security Council, we cannot discuss the merits or demerits of that resolution in that international forum.

During the meeting of the UN Security Council, Argentina, through its representative, Ambassador Armando Listre claimed it had been impossible to date to obtain an immediate cease-fire in the Malvinas because of the intransigence and pressure exercised by more than one member of the council. Ambassador Listre made the foregoing obvious reference to Great Britain and the United States after a resolution providing that the UN Secretary General resume his peacemaking efforts was unanimously approved by the 15 members of the council.

UN SOURCES SAY PEACE EFFORTS MAY END IN 48 HOURS

PY272332 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2314 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] United Nations, 27 May (TELAM) -- If no significant progress is made in the next 24 or 48 hours in reconciling the positions of the Argentine and British Governments on the South Atlantic conflict, the UN secretary will terminate this new round of talks.

The above rumor circulated persistently in UN diplomatic and press circles but was not confirmed by Javier Perez de Cuellar, who today held another round of talks with Argentine Representative Arnoldo Listre and British Representative Anthony Parsons in a clearly pessimistic mood, it was said.

Highly responsible sources reported tonight that Perez de Cuellar may be annoyed by the fact that the UN Security Council, after failing to make any progress toward a cease-fire, has again turned the responsibility over to him. These rumors have not been officially confirmed.

OAS REPUDIATION REQUESTED OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR UK

PY271623 Paris AFP in Spanish 1429 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Washington, 27 May (AFP) -- Argentine diplomatic sources have reported that Argentina will ask the OAS today that all resolutions passed by the organization express its repudiation of the U.S. help to Great Britain in the Malvinas war.

The sources added that during the meeting of the consultative organ of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR), scheduled to be held at OAS headquarters today, Argentina will also demand that the United States be asked to stop helping the aggressive power and to lift the sanctions imposed on Argentina.

Finally, the sources reported that for the time being Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, will not request military aid from other Latin American countries, but he will ask for a resolution providing a juridical framework stating that those countries which are willing and able to render military help should do so if Argentina asks for it.

TIAR MEETING HELD ON UK CONTINENTAL PRESENCE

PY271947 Buenos Aires International Service in English 1530 GMT 27 May 82

[Excerpt] The executive council of the Rio de Janeiro Pact will consider today the possibility of the existence of open or probable British action against the American Continent. The Rio Pact's decision to take action is prompted by the appearance of the wreck of a British helicopter on land in Chile, and by other indications which lead to the assumption that Britain is either openly or covertly carrying out military action on the American Continent.

The British helicopter crashed on the Chilean side of the frontier at the Strait of Magellan area. The three crew members were found yesterday, and they said that they had been in hiding for 10 days, according to reports from Chile sources.

According to informed sources, a number of countries will make charges against the United States today for the assistance it is giving Britain during the present Anglo-Argentine conflict over the Malvinas. This will be done during the meeting of the consultative organ of the Organization of American States. The resolution which is expected to be approved today would say that the assistance given by the United States to Britain as well as the sanctions against Argentina are directly opposed to the (?article) of the Rio de Janeiro Pact.

May Demand U.S. Stop UK Aid

PY271522 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1410 GMT 27 May 82

[Excerpts] Washington, 27 May (TELAM) -- The 20th consultative meeting of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty [TIAR] will resume here today, with the confirmed presence of 9 foreign ministers of 21 member countries and with an initial program which includes speeches by 5 participants.

According to diplomatic sources, the meeting -- which will begin at 1100 local time (1200 Argentine time, 1500 GMT) -- could conclude with a resolution which might demand that the United States lift sanctions imposed on Argentina and abstain from providing material support to Great Britain.

A possible decision authorizing the TIAR members to come to the aid of Argentina in the Malvinas Islands crisis and to demand the withdrawal of the British fleet from the zone of conflict is not discarded.

Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, who is believed to be the main speaker at the meeting, arrived last night in Washington and made some remarks on a television program.

Costa Mendez stated that he is willing to talk directly with his British counterpart Francis Pym and added that a greater rapprochement between his country and the Soviet Union is a practical possibility.

He stated: "What can our reaction to the United States be when it is helping the enemy?"

Costa Mendez' Address

PY272208 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2008 GMT 27 May 82

[Speech by Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez at TIAR consultative meeting in Washington on 27 May -- recorded]

[Text] On 30 April, the day after the foreign ministers of the Americas departed from Washington after approving decisions which included one calling for the rejection of coercive economic and political measures imposed by various extracontinental governments, the Government of the United States announced a series of serious economic sanctions against the Republic of Argentina and, at the same time, it announced its determination to respond positively to the requests for material support made by the Government of the United Kingdom for its military forces.

The United States -- a member of the Organization of American States, a country of the Americas, member of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty [TIAR] -- participated in the consultative meeting through its representative, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, but at no time did he even express or suggest the possibility that his country might adopt such coercive measures against an American state, coercive measures that clearly violate the letter and the spirit of a resolution which is binding on the United States.

Gentlemen, that is an extremely serious action, but much more serious is the military support which the United States pledged to a noncontinental state intent on attacking -- as it in fact did within less than 48 hours after receiving the support of the United States -- an American state; a state which the consultative organ had urged to immediately cease the hostilities it was carrying out within the security zone under provisions of Article 4 of the TIAR.

The United States can still make a valuable contribution simply by refraining from undertaking any action that may worsen the conflict and by restraining itself within the juridical framework of the TIAR. But it can also bring about a radical change in the political structure of the Americas by disregarding the call informally being made on it in these circumstances.

Argentina, as well as the countries that share with it this historical juncture, requests and awaits a reply from the United States. The dignity of our continent so demands, the future of the inter-American system expects and calls for that reply. So we trust this consultative meeting -- the organ with greater political power within the system as far as regional security is concerned -- will clearly call for a rejection, a condemnation of the unjustified armed aggression which the United Kingdom is consumating against my country, with the aggravating implication that such aggression poses, a threat against the entire continent by arbitrarily declaring a zone of hostilities an extensive area within 12 miles of the coastline of the Americas.

We should also ask all the member states to contribute to the peaceful solution of the conflict and to abstain from any act that may worsen the situation, and even more from providing material assistance to the extracontinental aggressor state.

We have already said that one of the states of the Americas, the United States, is already providing that assistance. We should ask of the United States that, instead of supplying arms and providing assistance to the attacker, it should use all the weight of its power -- a power that is great -- and the weight of its prestige -- that is also great -- in favor of peace.

The decision that will be adopted -- and for which, Mr President, we will present some concrete ideas as soon as we enter the appropriate phase of the debates -- could also offer a juridical framework for the many and generous offers of assistance which brotherly American countries have made to us.

8-Point Resolution

PY280132 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2339 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Washington, 27 May (TELAM) -- Argentina submitted today an eight-point draft resolution to the foreign conference that was called to discuss the Malvinas crisis. The resolution establishes:

1) To harshly condemn the unjustified armed aggression perpetrated by the United Kingdom against the Republic of Argentina and to condemn the illegal and arbitrary decision of establishing an exclusion zone in an extensive area within 12 miles of the coasts of the American Continent.

2) To deplore the fact that the attitude of the United Kingdom has led to the interruption of peaceful negotiations which were being carried out through the UN secretary general.

3) To firmly demand once again that the United Kingdom immediately cease its belligerent actions against the Republic of Argentina and order the immediate return of its war fleet to its usual bases.

4) To urge the United Kingdom and the Republic of Argentina to immediately establish the proper conditions that will enable the resumption and normal development of those negotiations undertaken within the United Nations with the objective of arriving at a peaceful solution to the conflict.

5) To ask the U.S. Government to immediately order the lifting of economic sanctions against the Republic of Argentina and to refrain from offering material aid to the United Kingdom so as to discourage the continuation of the armed aggression against the Republic of Argentina and to uphold the principle of inter-American solidarity and cooperation which is the cornerstone of the OAS Charter and of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty [TIAR].

6) To ask the EEC members, as well as other member nations which have yet not done so, to immediately lift the coercive economic measures imposed against the Republic of Argentina.

7) To ask the member nations to adopt, in keeping with what is established in the TIAR, the proper measures to assist the Republic of Argentina to repel the armed aggression perpetrated by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

8) To keep open the 20th consultative meeting with the objective of safeguarding the full and prompt fulfillment of this resolution and to enforce those additional measures that are necessary to preserve inter-American solidarity and cooperation.

COSTA MENDEZ WILLING TO TALK WITH UK'S PYM

PY271314 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1041 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Washington, 27 May (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez stated last night that he is willing to talk directly with his British counterpart Francis Pym and that it is not possible to believe that a solution to the Malvinas crisis could not be reached in that way.

The minister also said that it is a practical possibility that relations with Cuba and the Soviet Union may promptly become closer under the present circumstances.

Costa Mendez added that it is completely impossible that the forecast made on Tuesday by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig of a rapid British military victory come true.

The minister made his statements during a television program in which the first film, showing some details of the 1 to 8 May operations, sent by newsmen who are with the British fleet was shown.

Costa Mendez said he felt sick and impressed by the scenes showing the transfer of wounded crewmen from the destroyer Sheffield.

Asked if to put an end to the military confrontation he would be willing to carry out direct negotiations with the British foreign minister, he answered that he would if the contact is promoted by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The Argentine foreign minister arrived last night in Washington to attend today's meeting of the ministerial conference [of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty -- TIAR] requested by Argentina to discuss additional measures to help that country in its confrontation with Great Britain.

It is believed that during the meeting, in addition to condemning the British aggression, harsh criticism will be made of the support provided to Great Britain by the United States. Costa Mendez said that the U.S. attitude has seriously damaged its relations with the Latin American countries, which feel left out and see the United States as being closer to Europe than the Americas, an area to which it belongs geographically and historically.

Costa Mendez said: "I do not know how the United States, one of the countries which fought most vigorously against colonialism, does not understand that this is a problem of colonialism.

He said he recognized that the U.S. Government is following a policy of support for Great Britain but, he warned, support is something quite different from helping with arms and missiles to the extent that one wonders whether the United States really wants peace.

He said that, in view of its NATO and TIAR obligations, the United States should have followed a neutral policy.

Concerning the assistance thus far renderred to Argentina by other countries, Costa Mendez said: We have not formally asked for help yet, because the OAS has not authorized the renderring of such help, although we have bought some ammunition and secondary material from friendly countries. He did not identify the countries.

As regards ties with the USSR, he said we have excellent diplomatic and commercial relations but we have not yet gone any further.

Costa Mendez did not answer directly the question about the implementation of closer ties with the USSR and Cuba, replying that it might be a practical possibility, he added: What can be the reaction, with the United States helping the enemy?

He said nobody should be surprised at his attending an upcoming meeting by nonaligned countries in Havana, because Argentina has been an active member of that movement for approximately a decade.

Finally, he said that if the United States revises its attitude and returns to a neutral position, Argentina and Latin America may forgive but will not forget.

BRITISH REPORT ON PERUVIAN PILOTS DENIED

PY271653 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1250 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 May (NA) -- A military source categorically denied that Peruvian pilots are flying the Skyhawk airplanes of the Argentine Navy and Air Force, as reported by a spokesman of the British Government.

"If it is true, London must provide the serial number and the full name of the alleged Peruvian pilot," the source stated.

According to reports by international agencies, a spokesman of the British Government had revealed that the pilot of the Skyhawk shot down on Monday in the battle over San Carlos was of Peruvian nationality.

The Argentine military source also denied the presumed acquisition of "ground-launched" Exocet missiles and explained that to talk about Exocet missiles for use on land is "nonsense" or "ignorance" because there is only one missile of that type, both for air-to-surface or surface-to-air [as received] use.

The source added that the "Exocet MM 38 used by the Argentine Navy can se easily taken from the Super Etendard airplanes and mounted on a ground launcher, and therefore we cannot talk about the purchase of ground-launched Exocet missiles."

He said that the report could have psychological objectives to prepare public opinion for the sinking of some other ships that have been kept secret so far.

"It is possible that within the next few days they will announce the sinking of another ship attacked by Exocet missiles launched from land positions. In this manner they will provide the information in drops," the source added.

Reports coming from London indicate that the so-called Peruvian pilot had managed to eject himself from the plane he was flying.

These reports indicated that the acquisition of Exocet missiles by Argentina "could unbalance the battle which the Argentine forces and British Navy are fighting in the South Atlantic."

PLANNING CHIEF MEETS KIRKPATRICK IN NEW YORK

PY280238 Buenos Aires TELAM in English 2030 GMT 27 May 82

[From transmission "to the British Colony on the Malvinas"]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 May (TELAM) -- The permanent representative of the United States at the United Nations, Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, yesterday expressed her concern over the widening breach between the United States and Latin Ameica, the Argentine Governments planning chief, Brig Maj [as received] Jose Miret, said on a radio program carried by a Buenos Aires station this morning.

Miret said he had held a brief conversation with Kirpatrick yesterday in an anteroom of United Nations Headquarters where both officials are involved in the current meeting of the UN Security Council. He said the U.S. ambassador had asked him how the relationship (between the U.S. and Latin American nations) might be restored.

Asked by the program moderator whether he perceived good will on Kirkpatrick's part, Miret replied, "I believe that she, along with a group of officials of the Reagan administration, including Security Adviser William Clark, show good will (toward Argentina), and moreover, I sense that Haig's increasingly aggressive attitude toward Argentina, is a question more of his personal feelings, rather than a U.S. Government position."

MILITARY ATTACHE TO WASHINGTON RECALLED

PY272150 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2055 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 May (NA) -- "Argentina does not at present intend to establish communications with the U.S. Government," a diplomatic source stated here commenting on the recall to Buenos Aires of Argentine Military Attache Gen Miguel Mallea Gil.

"It does not indicate that the military channels with the United States are definitely closed," the source added.

Commenting on the recall of General Mallea Gil, the source stated that it must be interpretated as a new demonstration of the existing military disatisfaction of the U.S. attitude of support for Great Britain in the South Atlantic conflict.

Mallea Gil arrived yesterday in Buenos Aires and in the last 24 hours he held meetings with President Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri.

GALTIERI REPORTS TO ARMY HEADQUARTERS 27 MAY

FY272341 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2331 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 May (TELAM) -- The president of the nation, Lt Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri, left Government House and went to the Libertador Building, the headquarters of the army commander in chief.

The chief of state left Government House at 1945.

Army Generals Meeting

FY280300 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0232 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 May (TELAM) -- The president of the republic and commander in chief of the army has been presiding over a meeting of generals at the Libertador Building, the headquarters of the army commander in chief.

The meeting, which is being attended by all generals on active duty, is for briefing purposes, a military source said tonight.

NAVY COMMANDER ARRIVES IN COMODORO RIVADAVIA

FY272209 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2110 GMT 27 May 82

[Excerpt] Comodoro Rivadavia, 27 May (TELAM) -- The commander in chief of the navy, Adm Jorge Isaac Anaya, today arrived in this city with the purpose of analyzing with the high command of the armed forces the operations being carried out for the defense of our Malvinas Islands, the latest situation and possible future strategy.

The member of the military junta arrived in the local airport in a navy aircraft, he was met by Vice Adm Juan Jose Lombardo, commander of naval operations and chief of the Theater of Operations of the South Atlantic; Gen Jorge Osvaldo Garcia, commander of the V Corps; Maj Gen Hermuth Conrado Weber; and other chiefs and high ranking officers stationed in the area.

LAMI DOZO PRAISES PILOTS, TALKS TO PRESS

FY271929 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color in Spanish 1620 GMT 27 May 82

[From "El Show de la Vida"]

[Text] The commander in chief of the air force, Gen Basilio Lami Dozo, today headed the ceremony honoring the 107th anniversary of the birth of the founder of military aviation [Jorge Newberry]. General Lami Dozo talked with "El Show de la Vida."

[Begin recording] [Question] General, can we have some statement by you on such a special occasion?

[Lami Dozo] Yes, a statement, but only a statement and not a press conference or anything like that.

[Question in English by unidentified reporter] Sir, can I ask you one question in English: How do you think the battle is going?

[Lami Dozo] I will make a statement and then I will answer your question.

[Lami Dozo] This month of May is a very special month for the Republic of Argentina, particularly for the air force. This is the baptism by fire for the air force and I believe that it has fulfilled all the expectations of the Argentine nation. We are professionals and a professional is a rational being; therefore, my pilots cannot be labeled as suicidal or something like that; courage, yes; boldness, yes; professionalism, all the way. This is my thought for today. Regarding the question from the British reporter, I will say that the battle is going very well for us. Our capability in the south is intact and we will continue to respond to any action on their part. They already know us and how we respond.

[Question] A few hours ago you said that you continue to have faith in this dramatic process of confrontation between Argentines and British: Do you continue to have faith?

[Answer] Completely, complete faith in my own force, in the army and navy and the Argentine people. I have no doubt that we are going to achieve our objectives.

[Question] General, what do you think of the pope's visit to Argentina?

[Answer] I believe that the holy father has realized the importance of the Republic of Argentina in the Catholic world.

[Question] General, are you going back to the theater of operations in the next few days?

[Answer] God willing, yes. Thank you. [end recording]

REPORTAGE ON 27 MAY MILITARY OPERATIONS

Air Attack on Beachhead

PY271730 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1721 GMT 27 May 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 97]

[Text] The Joint Staff reports that at 0200 this morning, 27 May 1982, Canberra aircraft of the Argentine Air Force bombed the beachhead established by the enemy at Puerto San Carlos. The public will be informed in due course on the damage.

Fleet To Begin Joint Attack

PY271230 Paris AFP in Spanish 1055 GMT 27 May 82

[By Luis Maria Maiz]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 May (AFP) -- A highly reliable source stated here today that a new Argentine joint offensive, with the participation of air force planes, Super Etendard navy planes, submarines and other units of the fleet is expected within the next few hours.

The primary objective of the attack is to prevent the consolidation and extension of the bridgehead established by the British in Puerto San Carlos (on Soledad Island in the Malvinas Islands), for which the Argentine forces will try to break up [desarticular] the British fleet and isolate those who have landed.

The source revealed that the air force -- the basis of the superiority of the Argentine strategy in the area -- has not suffered irreparable losses to this moment, contrary to what had been said in London; and this will be demonstrated within the next few days.

He added that new Mirage III's and Mirage M-5 Daggers will arrive in the country soon from friendly countries to replace those lost in combat; a military source estimated there would be between 24 and 30 aircraft of various types.

Moreover, he added, together with the airplanes, missiles and the appropriate spare parts will also arrive.

Regarding the pilots, he voiced assurances that the air force has sufficient pilots to fly 100 new aircraft, and in addition approximately 70 percent of the pilots of the airplanes shot down in combat have been recovered and are ready to return to action.

The source added that the air force officials have discarded the possibility of acquiring airplanes from the socialist countries because it would involve changing the weapons systems used and would demand a long period of training.

Regarding the British bridgehead established by approximately 2,300 men at Puerto San Carlos (Soledad Island) and the strait that separates this island from the Gran Malvina (western side), he indicated that it has not progressed and that, on the contrary, the action of the Argentine artillery has inflicted tremendous losses upon them; the losses are estimated at 250.

The British enclave has been constantly harrassed for 3 days by Pucara airplanes, armed helicopters of the army and Aeromacchi and Mentor airplanes of the naval aviation.

He added that following the severe losses suffered by the British on Tuesday, the Royal Marines are without supplies and without the support of the Harriers and helicopters and therefore they are not in a position to advance toward Puerto Darwin, which is a little more than 15 km toward the south.

The constant Argentine attacks aim at preventing the flow of supplies and the eventual construction of a landing strip for the vertical take off Harriers, although military sources indicated that the particular topographical conditions in that place would prevent such construction.

The spokesman stated that there are British advance groups separated by approximately 10 km from the main force who were transported in helicopters and are practically isolated, while the main core, which is estimated to be made up of 1,800 men, is concentrated between the mountains and the sea, near the beach.

The source added that the British authorities should not count on the movement of that force, because they are running the risk of being annihilated.

During the next 24 hours the Super Etendard (carriers of the effective Exocet missiles which have sunk two British ships) will fly again, and new operations are scheduled with air force aircraft, while action by the submarines and other units of the Argentine fleet is also considered imminent.

Military sources have agreed in pointing out that the main target sought by the Argentine forces is the aircraft carrier Invincible and the Queen Elizabeth II and Canberra troop and material transports.

Moreover, according to reports revealed this morning, Argentine troops in the Malvinas had discovered two important ammunition dumps, especially for grenades for mortars, hidden near the site of the Falkland Island Company, the enterprise in which the husband of Margaret Thatcher holds important shares.

Submarines Begin Action

PY271613 Paris AFP in Spanish 1514 GMT 27 May 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 27 May (AFP) -- The Argentine submarines have begun their activities against units of the British intervention fleet, a military source states today in Buenos Aires, but without saying when.

A submarine of the Argentine Navy was the object of attacks for 70 hours by a British ship when it was detected practically under the invading ship near the Malvinas Islands, he added.

He explained that the submarine had to hide on the bottom of the ocean at a depth of approximately 400 meters, resting on the seabed for some 70 hours, after firing its torpedoes against one of the ships. One of the most modern submarines that Argentina has is the San Luis, built in the FRG in 1974, which carries eight 533-mm torpedo tubes and six more reserve torpedoes.

To Launch 'Final Attack'

PY271914 Paris AFP in Spanish 1804 GMT 27 May 82

[By Michel Henault]

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 27 May (AFP) -- The Argentine Navy, which has been out of the theater of operations around the Malvinas, has now entered into action to support the counteroffensive launched a week ago to stop the landing carried out on Friday by the British in San Carlos region, on the northwestern side of Soledad Island. Moreover, the Argentine infantry supported by aviation and after a night of intensive bombardment of the British bridgehead -- the night of Tuesday-Wednesday -- strengthened their positions around the pocket of San Carlos, with the participation of helicopters and light tanks, according to specialized sources.

Our troops are in constant contact with the enemy commandos, who are kept in their enclave, making it almost impossible for them to advance, a military source states.

Another specialized source close to high-ranking officials, today added that the units of the Royal Navy that had been supporting the bridgehead from north of San Carlos Strait, have withdrawn to the high seas, a fact which has increased the isolation of the commandos during the past 24 hours.

During the night of Wednesday-Thursday, Argentine commandos infiltrated into the heart of the bridgehead and managed to destroy ammunition and fuel depots, the same source added.

During the next few hours, we will be in an ideal position to launch the final attack on the British bridgehead. It is necessary to do it, he concluded, after he explained that the operations to pinpoint the enemy positions have been slow due to the difficulties emerging from the nature of the terrain and not the enemy force.

Report on Harrier Attacks

PY280152 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0146 GMT 28 May 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 98]

[Text] The Joint Staff hereby reports that today, 27 May 1982, Argentine Army forces came in contact with the enemy's beachhead through advances made by our exploratory forces.

Air raids were carried out against enemy positions whose results are now being evaluated. Enemy Harrier planes attacked Howard, Puerto Argentino and Port Darwin. An enemy plane was downed in Port Darwin.

Two Harriers Downed

PY280119 Paris AFP in Spanish 0102 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 27 May (AFP) -- Two British Harrier planes were downed today by the Argentine anti-air defenses in Puerto Argentino and Port Darwin, on Soledad Island (Malvinas), the official television station Channel 7 reported tonight.

The TV station's correspondent in Puerto Argentino reported that "a group of Harrier fighters successively attacked the two ports today but caused no casualties among the Argentine soldiers."

One Harrier was downed in Puerto Argentino and the other in Port Darwin, the correspondent said.

On this sunny day, this was the only news from the Malvinas, the correspondent added.

In its latest communique, the Joint Staff announced today that Argentine Canberra planes had bombarded today at 0500 GMT the British beachhead at Puerto San Carlos, at the northeastern end of Soledad Island.

MILITARY SOURCE REPORTS COUNTRY'S LOSSES

PY281126 Paris AFP in Spanish 0939 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 May (AFP) -- Military reports made available in the Argentine capital have indicated that Argentina has lost seven ships, 13 airplanes and four helicopters, whereas the loss of men is reportedly somewhat less than 500.

According to a military source, the number of dead and missing Argentines since the beginning of the conflict, including the 320 victims of the sinking of the cruiser General Belgrano, is less than 500, although no exact figures have been officially given.

Regarding materials, the last official Joint Staff reports recognize the loss of a submarine, a cruiser and five smaller transport and liaison vessels, in addition to 13 planes shot down, three damaged and four helicopters destroyed.

UK USING HOSPITAL SHIP FOR MILITARY PURPOSES

PY280322 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0307 GMT 28 May 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 99]

[Text] The Joint Staff hereby informs the public that through the Foreign Ministry of the Federative Republic of Brazil the British Government was again notified yesterday, 27 May 1982, of the abnormal situation of the military hospital ship Uganda.

In this respect, the Argentine Government has confirmed that the Uganda is being utilized by the enemy for military objectives thus violating express provisions of the Second Geneva Convention of 1949.

The Argentine Government has time and again demanded that the Uganda immediately discontinue every activity which is not related to its specific functions as a hospital ship and that it move to a prudent distance from the zone of operations at the Strait of San Carlos, so that it can be readily identified and to dispel every doubt about its being utilized for other purposes.

Should the United Kingdom persist in utilizing the Uganda in tasks which are not in keeping with those of a hospital ship, the Argentine Government will deem itself exempted from the provisions of the above convention and declines every responsibility for events which might take place.

BASIC COMMODITY SHORTAGE IN ISLANDS REPORTED

PY271608 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1040 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Puerto Argentino, 27 May (TELAM) -- Brig Gen Mario Benjamin Menendez, the military governor of the Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands, has told TELAM that "the situation of the Malvinas inhabitants, from the viewpoint of supplies, is clearly difficult as a result of the air and sea blockade imposed by the British Government."

After stating that the Argentine authorities are constantly making considerable effort to normalize this situation which is independent from the supplying of the troops -- which continues to run normally -- he warned that "if the Malvinas inhabitants do not receive the necessary supplies for their survival, then it will be the sole responsibility of the British, who at no time have cared for the fate of these inhabitants."

This and other statements were made during the course of an exclusive TELAM interview held at Government House which was also attended by Adm Edgardo Haroldo Otero and Brig Gen Guillermo Luis Castellano, heads of the naval and air branches respectively.

The islands' highest authorities have been consulted in the wake of the shortage of basic commodities in stores of Puerto Argentino, Puerto Darwin and other towns, and in view of the certainty that such shortages are even more serious in the remote spots of the archipelago.

Menendez pointed out that "throughout all the operations, Great Britain has shown little concern for the islanders and that in its effort to reinforce the blockade it has seriously damaged the development of the civilians' life, both British and native."

On the other hand, Adm Edgardo Otero recalled that Britain has systematically attacked all cargo ships operating between the islands, as in the case of the ships Isla de los Estados, Rio Carcarana and other smaller craft.

He added that the military government has decided to send military helicopters to supply food and medicine, which involves an unprecedented risk. In spite of their mission, these operations have also been the object of British attack, "as in the case of the Penelope."

"The Penelope -- he went on -- is a small ship which carried out the mission of supplying medicine and food to the farms. Suddenly it mysteriously vanished. Then we found it hidden away at a very remote port. Its crew, made up of Malvinas inhabitants, refused to work, fearing the British Air Force. Now the service is carried out with our personnel, at the Argentines' own risk, in defense of the islanders."

Admiral Otero explained that such service does not operate routinely but only when permitted by the position of the enemy.

As for air transportation, Brig Gen Luis Castellanos has stated that in this regard the islands have thus far been the ones most seriously affected. During the bombardments of 1 May the British Air Force destroyed the small plane which was the islands' air taxi, and the postal plane, as well as a light aircraft belonging to the former British governor. "And we should not forget -- he added -- the continuous attacks on the airport, launched almost daily."

Brig General Benjamin Menendez ended the dialogue saying that despite these difficulties, his government is doing and will do all in its power to protect the lives and rights of all inhabitants of the Malvinas Islands.

LA PRENSA VIEWS U.S., SOVIET POSITIONS

PY272319 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 May p 1, 4

[By J. Iglesias Rouco: "Escalation"]

[Excerpts] -- In New York, London and Buenos Aires a new plan for peace is being prepared now, which may be summed up in the course of the coming hours.

There are, however, sound doubts on the prospects of the new plan mainly due to the refusal of the British Government to negotiate.

That refusal may be due to two reasons: first, the wrong information which Mrs Thatcher's "war cabinet" has been giving so far about the amount of material and human losses of the "navy," a fact which has already been denounced in the Commons and which can be concealed only by the continuation of the war in order to launder such losses in the coming days or to hide them behind a victory. Secondly, after Friday's escalation London now finds it very difficult from the political view point to withdraw from the islands. In this sense Mrs Thatcher is, we may say, trapped in her own trap, such as we had anticipated in mid-April, long before the fleet approached these waters. The only way out for her is war to death, until the end. And to carry out this intention, there is one favorable point in her behalf: The fact that a defeat -- such as withdrawing at this point without recovering the archipelago would be -- would seriously affect the military and political prestige of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), of which the "navy" is an essential instrument, and also the prestige of the EEC and of the United States itself, which gave their support.

A special envoy from Mr Reagan is expected to arrive in Buenos Aires in a few hours. Mr Costa Mendez will also talk in New York with U.S. officials, among them Mr Haig himself. The foreign minister reportedly talked over the phone with President Galtieri about the outcome of his first unofficial contacts, which were apparently not very promising, and also about the initial debates of the Security Council. One positive issue for Buenos Aires is however observed: The growing concern of the White House for this escalation, which North Americans view as having no end unless the U.S. decisively intervenes.

But the disagreements of the Pentagon, the White House and the State Department are increasing day by day, which hinders a quick change of path in the United States, while the "Atlanticists" of the State Department continue requesting practically unrestricted military aid, the Pentagon cannot turn eyes away from Latin America and also shows its great concern for the eventual "internationalization" of the war in the hemisphere and the moves of the Soviet Union.

Despite the Argentine rejection of the Soviet "cooperation" offer -- which we reported a few days ago -- there is the belief at the Pentagon that the more the British pressure in the South Atlantic increases, particularly if this is a result of U.S. military aid, the more will increase and strengthen the unitl now small group of Argentines who are in favor of turning to the USSR.

CHIEF OF STAFF DENIES MEETING OF LA PAZ OFFICERS

PY261945 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 May 82

[Excerpts] The army chief of staff, Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon, termed "truly false" press reports about an alleged meeting held by La Paz garrison commanders, saying such reports are not true because such a meeting, reported by some local newspapers, had never taken place. General Vildoso talked to reporters shortly after the ceremony commemorating the (?161st) anniversary of the "Colorados de Bolivia" Regiment, which was attended by President Celso Torrelio Villa, by the military high command, by foreign ambassadors and military attaches and by other officials.

Shortly after the ceremony, General Vildoso held an informal talk with reporters to clarify some press reports published in the last few days. He said commanders of major units and military institutes held a meeting in La Paz on 7 May, but that no new meeting of similar significance and formality had taken place since then. He remarked that some chiefs of those units may have met, since this can happen normally for consideration of exclusively military and coordination matters. But, he stressed, no meeting of such significance as reported by the press had taken place in La Paz.

GOVERNMENT TO START TALKS WITH POLITICAL PARTIES

PY272146 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 May 82

[Excerpt] The Interior Ministry today started contacting leaders of representative political parties with the purpose of implementing a broad national accord that might lead to restoration of the country's constitutional life. Shortly after meeting with President Celso Torrelio Villa, the interior minister, Col Romulo Mercado Garncia, told reporters that invitations had been extended to leaders for the purpose of scheduling meetings with members of the National Political and Social Council, CONAPOL.

Recommendations on the electoral program will be issued during these meetings: Such recommendations will also serve to decide whether all legal instruments concerning the electoral process will be redesigned. Minister Mercado Garnica said the date of the elections would also be established by the government and the politicians.

Ministry Announcement

PY272213 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 May 82

[Excerpt] The Interior Ministry has issued a communique explaining its purposes leading to the institutionalization and democratization of the nation, and said it has created a national commission made up of the National Political and Social Council and armed forces representatives. The commission will be in charge of the important task of implementing the broad national accord, which will be aimed at achieving a permanent, enduring and responsible democracy able to strengthen the Bolivian nation. The document asks political parties to accredit delegates to the commission to start the proposed task.

A resolution, referring to the amnesty decreed for all Bolivian citizens who have been banished or who left the country for political reasons, states that with the executive branch decision to lift the recess on political activities in the country, the Interior Ministry decrees a general amnesty for all citizens who were banished or who have left the country for political reasons.

This information was released at Government House after the ministers meeting yesterday morning.

PRC AMBASSADOR CRITICIZES CUBA'S ROLE IN REGION

PA271919 Paris AFP in Spanish 0015 27 May 82

[Text] Bogota, 26 May (AFP) -- Zhao Zhengyi, PRC ambassador to Colombia, today accused Cuba of "playing the role of saboteur in the Caribbean, under instructions from the USSR, because the Soviets cannot play this role, themselves." Zhao accused Cuba of being a Soviet tool to develop the "Soviet policy for hegemony" in Caribbean and African nations.

Zhao has been the ambassador to Colombia for the past 18 months. He siad his country has not and will not intervene in Colombia's domestic affairs because the PRC respects the independence and self-determination of peoples. Zhao said: "I truly believe people's revolutions cannot be exported.

The ambassador reiterated that Cuba is playing a role of saboteur and warned all Latin American nations, particularly those in the Caribbean, to increase their vigilance to prevent "the (Russian) bear from slipping in through the back door."

M-19 LEADERS, MEMBERS FOUND GUILTY AT TRIAL

PA271954 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Bogota -- Leaders of the clandestine M-19 movement and 150 rank and file members have been found guilty of crimes such as arms theft, rebellion, kidnapping, aggravated larceny and homicide, and were sentenced to at least 20 years' imprisonment for each crime. The verdicts were announced at La Picota prison around midnight, ending a trial that lasted more than 2 years.

Among those found guilty were Carlos Toledo Plata, former congressman, and Rosemberg Pabon Pabon, a schoolteacher, both present at the trial, and Jaime Bateman Cayon and Ivan Marino Ospina, tried in absentia. The verdict will be read during a special session on 5 July at La Picota. What had been termed the "trial of the century," due to its size and duration, ended without much ado. Even though nearly 200 people were tried, some were found innocent. The exact number found guilty is unknown, but defense lawyers said it was more than 150.

The trial had some spectacular episodes, such as when the Dominican Republic Embassy in Bogota was taken over by the M-19 to demand guarantees; the escape of two prisoners dressed in military uniforms; and the deaths of two of the most famous guerrilla leaders, Jose Elmer Marin Marin and Carmenza Cardona Londono, alias "La Chiqui." Likewise, the M-19 prisoners recently revoked the power of attorney given to the communist lawyers, thus provoking a split between the communists and the clandestine group. This was one of the main reasons the peace commission failed, according to Senator Alvaro Gomez Hurtado.

Two FARC Guerrillas Killed

PA271914 Bogato Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Neiva -- Two guerrillas, apparently of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, were killed by troops today during a clash in the municipality of (Coafa). The two guerrillas, identified as (M.M. Ernesto) and (M.N. Ramiro), members of the 13th FARC front, were killed in the clash between members of the 9th Brigade and a group of about 15 insurgents. (?The troops confiscated) [words indistinct] one .45 cal pistol and other (?military) supplies, which were turned over to the headquarters of the 9th Brigade.

NOGUES EXPLAINS ISLANDS STAND, RIVER PLATE ISSUE

PY271422 Asuncion Teledifusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish 1000 GMT 27 May 82

[Interview with Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues at Asuncion airport 26 May -- recorded]

[Text] The consultative meeting of the signatory countries of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty [TIAR] will take place in Washington today at the request of Argentina in view of the aggravation of the conflict in the South Atlantic. Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues referred to the subjects that will be discussed at the TIAR meeting, just before his departure for the U.S. capital:

[Begin recording] [Nogues] The TIAR meeting summoned to this effect will soon be held. I understand there is a draft resolution, or more than one. The thing we are going to do is to compare them to see which one is the most, let us say, palatable. As you know, at these international meetings an evaluation is made of all the problems arising under the resolutions and then the one is adopted that is the most suitable for the general interests. I wish to tell you that in this case I will understand the general interests to be those that are most in accordance with the interests of this country.

[Question] Mr Minister, what position will you take as the representative of Paraguay?

[Answer] The Paraguayan position is well known; cooperation in all efforts made to achieve an honorable and just peace between the nations in conflict. This morning I received a visit from the British ambassador, and he told me, and he guaranteed, that his government has not established a blockade of the River Plate.

[Question] So the press reports are totally denied?

[Answer] At least that is what the British ambassador asserted to me, and I suppose it is true; I must suppose it is the truth. [end recording]

British Deny Blockade Rumor

PY271353 Asuncion Teledifusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish 1000 GMT 27 May 82

[Communique released by British Embassy in Asuncion 26 May]

[Text] A number of rumors have been spread in the press and other sectors that the British Government has warned the Uruguayan Government not to permit Argentine warships to use the River Plate as a refuge. The rumor has also been spread that the British exclusion zone has been extended to include the River Plate estuary. The British Embassy intends only to state categorically that British operations will not be extended to the waters affected by the River Plate Treaty of 1973 inside a line from Punta del Este to Punta Rasa on Cape San Antonio.

EXILES CAN RETURN TO COUNTRY, LEADER ANNOUNCES

PY280159 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 20 May 82 p 9

[Excerpt] The Interior Ministry has authorized the return to the country of political exiles who are members of the Frebrerista Revolutionary Party [PRF], Juan G. Granada, PRF secretary general, has told ULTIMA HORA. He noted that among the PRF leaders who could return to the country are Elpidio Yegros, Arnaldo Valdovinos, Hugo Caroni, Valentin Granada, Cibils, Sarubbi, Gonzalez Vera, Perrotta, Yampey, Carega and others now outside the country.

The Ministry also authorized the reopening of the weekly EL PUEBLO, Granada said. The PRF secretary general also noted that the Interior Ministry will give guarantees so the PRF can conduct political activities in the interior of the country to reorganize its rank and file organizations.

PEOPLE'S DISENCHANTMENT CHANCE FOR DE LA MADRID

FL272110 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1935 GMT 27 May 82

[NOTIMEX Editorial Services commentary by Pedro Ocampo Ramirez: "Longing To Believe: Revolution Within the Revolution"]

[Text] When the Mexican revolutionary movement, which began at the dawn of this century, came to power on the ashes of the Porfirio Diaz dictatorship, it still had to wage a battle of definitions in order to be able in the end to come before the country with a government platform and a lifestyle faithful to the historic struggles of our people. Once the risks of caudillismo were surmounted and the temptation to replace one dictatorship with another was set aside, the formula proposed was to work for the creation of an equitable and democratic society in which the rule of social justice would not require the surrender of the citizens' freedoms in exchange.

Our people are still committed to this endeavor, on which their hopes feed every 6 years. If there is evident dissatisfaction in the country and if the phantom of abstentionism has turned into one of the biggest concerns at present, it is not because the Mexican masses have turned their backs on the program of the Mexican revolution; it is because the people, though keeping the faith, are hurt by the faithlessness of those who postulate or brandish it merely as an electoral tool.

The truth is that most Mexicans are not dissatisfied with the work of the revolution or with a political system that still guarantees them a minimum of freedoms, but they are dissatisfied with the corruption that paralyzes the work of the revolution and with the repressive mentality of those who want to abolish citizens' rights, those rights that still make Mexico an island in a sea of nations with governments that rule by force, and a home where the persecuted of the world can still find shelter.

Dissent, minority opposition of various shades, we have always had these. And a good thing, because we need these as a democratic option for our people. But the fact remains that in the course of several 6-year terms, with their corresponding electoral opportunities, the attempt to awaken the people's enthusiasm and militancy has failed. The people's response has been directed -- and this is something to think about -- at the candidates and political groups within the revolutionary party itself who detatch themselves from the party to challenge its failure to fulfill the common program. Indeed, none of the candidates of the traditional opposition have had as many followers as, in their time, Jose Vasconcelos, Adolfo de la Huerta, Juan Andrew Almazan and Miguel Henriquez Guzman -- men of the system who rebelled against it from within.

This political reality has been clearly perceived undoubtedly by the PRI's presidential candidate, Miguel de la Madrid, and therein is his determination to offer, with his candidacy and his pledges, the option of change within the Mexican political system. It is a sort of revolution within the revolution, which pledges to do the necessary things that have been left undone and to fight the vices of the system itself. In the midst of the credibility crisis, his words have pierced the people's disenchantment, at the bottom of which hope still dwells timidly. And Miguel de la Madrid undoubtedly knows that the Mexican people are again clutching at their longing to believe, although this might be the last time they do so.

BRIEFS

SUGAR IMPORTS -- Mexico City, 26 May (NOTIMEX) -- The National Sugar Industry Commission (CNIA) reported today that Mexico will import 400,000 tons of sugar this year, mostly from Cuba. National sugar production is expected to reach 2 million tons. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0356 GMT 27 May 82 FL]

OIL, GAS EXPORTS -- Mexico City, 26 May (NOTIMEX) -- The Secretariat of Programming and Budget said today that Mexico exported $14,511,000,000 in crude oil and natural gas in 1981, a 40 percent increase over 1980 sales. Crude oil exports amounted to 400,777,000 barrels and natural gas to 3,127,000,000 cubic meters. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0144 GMT 27 May 82 FL]

PRESIDENT ROYO ANSWERS REAGAN'S 2 MAY LETTER

PA272025 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 26 May 82 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Letter from Panamanian President Aristides Royo to U.S. President Ronald Reagan dated 22 May 82]

[Text] His Excellency Ronald Reagan
President of the United States of America
Washington
Mr President:

I share the concern that you expressed in your 2 May letter to me. Indeed, in a short time, the Anglo-Argentine conflict has ceased being a bilateral conflict and, by engulfing all of the countries in the area, has put the principles and mechanisms serving as a basis for the inter-American system to a severe test. In fact, the conflict has created a new hotbed of international tension and has become an added obstacle to the preservation of world peace. As you know, for historical reasons my country is particularly sensitive to matters concerning the recovery and preservation of territorial integrity and sovereignty, as well as to legal principles and peaceful and constructive negotiations to settle international controversies and restore justice in relations among states. As a matter of fact, when the United States and Panama agreed on the decolonization program embodied in the canal treaties, which are now in the process of implementation, they demonstrated to the world that this is a correct and viable path. This serves as the basis for understanding, respect, friendship and cooperation among nations.

With the canal treaties, our countries showed the world that maintaining colonial situations and seizing territories is not only morally injurious but constitutes an illegal action that hinders peaceful coexistence among nations, and can become the primary cause of subsequent conflicts. It means that, in the American and world communities, colonialism, exploitation of a nation's resources by a colonial power, along with inequality and economic dependence, are the cause of repeated conflicts, especially when they are not accompanied by negotiations to effectively attain timely and satisfactory results. For this reason, Latin Americans feel that respecting the principle of legality is tantamount to truly and effectively eliminating the causes of conflict, because this is the most positive way to avoid confrontations.

It is a fact that UN resolutions on decolonization have been long and vexingly ignored during the British occupation of the Malvinas Islands and their dependencies. Argentina's action to vindicate its national honor and interests has not been the cause, but the outcome of an unjust and unacceptable situation, which was intensified by the United Kingdom's refusal to arrive at a peaceful settlement after long years of fruitless negotiations. It is Great Britain which has undermined legal principles to an extreme by preventing results from being attained or hopes from being harbored in the negotiations process.

Argentina has taken action to legitimately defend its historical rights according to procedures that are required by law and international agreements. The British response has been characterized by the use of violence, not only through the unusual mobilization of forces, but through a humiliating increase of military pressure and the organization of economic aggression during this new period of negotiations. The inordinate use of force has again cast doubts on the sincerity of Great Britain's willingness to arrive at a diplomatic solution.

The cause of colonialism and the use of force, which is invariably associated with it, is a poor cause. We Latin Americans have had to lament the fact that our U.S. friends have now identified themselves with the cause of colonialism through their support to the British violence against Argentina. De facto support of the use of force is not the best way to defend legal principles. Rather, had this decisive support not been given, it would have been more feasible to conclude a negotiated agreement. The quest for a dignified and just solution, in line with legal principles, requires the withdrawal of all support of the use of force by the United Kingdom. Force has become the United Kingdom's main negotiating weapons and the greatest obstacle to a diplomatic settlement of the conflict.

Attempts at settling the conflict through military means would only fill the current situation with bitterness and make the future gloomier through frustrations, resentment and new disputes, which will arise as a consequence of the errors which are now being committed.

One of these errors was to have abandoned the doctrine that was announced by President Monroe and which, defended by Adams, Jefferson and Clay, inspired and guided the foreign policy of subsequent American generations. This doctrine, which was sometimes misinterpreted or used to justify U.S. intervention in our countries -- misinterpretations or bad usage which we will always reject -- was bulwark of the democracy and the unity of the new world nations against the expansionist plans of extracontinental powers. As such, it laid the groundwork for hemispheric relations which were unprecedented in the history of the peoples by uniting the north and the south around the single goal of liberation.

Now that the Monroe Doctrine has been violated by the very ones who were supposed to be its main defenders, the interests of the peoples of the two Americas find themselves in opposition because of this strange U.S. attitude of identifying itself with the remnants of European colonialism. Although it may seem paradoxical, the Latin Americans must now assume the responsibility of the heirs and spokesmen of that wise principle [the Monroe Doctrine] which formerly guided U.S. policy. Of course, this affects what we have so far understood as hemispheric relations.

My government, recognizing the legitimate right that Argentina has to recover the Malvinas and its dependencies, has always supported the decolonization of the islands. Without departing from our vocation for peace, we reiterate that the legal approach to a solution can only be achieved through a recognition of Argentina's sovereignty and the determination of the residual rights that may have been acquired by their occupants. To forcibly oppose this procedure, as the United Kingdom is doing, constitutes unnecessary and unjustifiable aggression against a fraternal country. Such action has already been condemned by most Latin American governments. The United States should heed such a vast clamor from most of this continent's nations.

Panama and the United States are linked by the canal treaties. These treaties include the neutrality pact which we so much appreciate and which responds to the best interests of both nations. According to this treaty, the presence of U.S. installations and military personnel is justified on a temporary basis. U.S. military personnel, jointly with the Panamanian armed forces, must specifically devote themselves to the exclusive task of protecting and defending the Panama Canal until 31 December 1999.

In view of the indissoluble historical, ethnic and cultural ties which link us to the Argentine people and to other Latin American peoples, as well as our support for their national claim, we are concerned about the strict compliance with the letter and spirit of the canal treaties regarding military activities or activities which may be related with military aspects that may occur in or from Panama's sovereign territory. Therefore, we request the formal promise of the U.S. Government that none of its installations or personnel, or the areas they use, will be involved in actions which, directly or indirectly, adversely affect Argentine interests or the interests of any other Latin American nation or which favor British actions which the Panamanians reject.

My government reiterates that it is most favorably disposed to facilitating dialogue and understanding between the two sides for the sake of peace and in an effort to come to an agreement for the definitive elimination of the causes of this conflict. We are therefore pleased that you have politely urged us to express our opinion and to promote an exchange of views during these difficult days we are all experiencing. We receive your request in the hope that our opinion will be heeded so that it may contribute to preventing greater damage to continental solidarity.

Yours truly, [Signed] Aristides Royo, President of the Republic of Panama

EL SALVADOR

D'AUBUISSON NOT AFRAID OF U.S. CRITICISM

PA271813 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 25 May 82 pp 5, 45

[Excerpts] In a meeting with the Salvadoran Productive Alliance held at his office at the Constituent Assembly yesterday, Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson discussed reports about his image which have been circulating in the United States. Regarding these reports he said: "We are not afraid of what may come because we have behaved honestly and particularly in the 6 months that we have been working in the Nationalist Republic Alliance (ARENA), Therefore, we are morally sound and are not afraid of criticism."

"We are not afraid of the consequences. I am going to thoroughly investigate this matter and if we have to write a memorandum we will, so our people will know the truth," he added.

The president of the assembly continued: "There are sectors in the United States which are interested in distorting the truth about the legislative work of this assembly. Decree No 6 is clear regarding the temporary suspension of Decree No 207 and whoever continues to say the opposite is a villain and follows foreign ideas. A special regulation to guarantee Decree No 207 will be drafted." He also said that peasants will not be dislodged from the lots. Regarding the distribution of land, he said that "a specific and thorough study will be made, particularly concerning lots of 100 to 500 hectares. If this is carried, a second stage will be implemented but without government interference."

D'Aubuisson also asked: "Who has been worried about the expropriations made by the agrarian reform? If some 25,000 people benefitted by Decree No 207, this also means that 25,000 were affected. We must seek a solution for those affected. Decree No 6 issued by the Constituent Assembly consolidates Decree No 207 but we must also issue laws to benefit those affected."

I tell those who criticize me in the United States: they should not tell us how to dress or what to eat, he noted.

Regarding the country's future, D'Aubuisson said that there are two main aspects: "First, the country's economic recovery and then its pacification. These two aspects must not be separated, they must be solved together if we want to see the country's total recovery," he stressed.

"There has been intrigue. There is even something bigger against El Salvador and an effort is being made to confuse the public in the United States," he noted.

"Regarding the personal attack made by former U.S. Ambassador Robert White, I could challenge him to present proof, but since he doesn't have it, I maintain that he is just slandering me. As a member of the Constituent Assembly, I am going to take steps so that I am respected," D'Aubuisson said.

BUSINESS LEADER CRITICIZES PREVIOUS REFORMS

PA272349 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2301 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] San Salvador, 26 May (ACAN-EFE) -- In an exclusive interview with ACAN-EFE, Conrado Lopez Andreu, president of the Salvadoran Chamber of Commerce and Industries, said that the loans to El Salvador from other governments should not be pegged to the continuation of the reforms.

Lopez Andreu said that a study of the results of the agrarian, banking and foreign trade reforms should be made before loans are pegged "to the continuation of reforms which have been carried out, above all, for political and demagogic reasons."

The business leader said that the former government headed by Jose Napoleon Duarte was against the participation of the free enterprise in the work to solve national problems, "even though we sought a dialogue which was not possible because we had totally opposing ideologies."

"The former government's ideology was communitarian," Lopez Andreu said, "while we believe in free enterprise and free trade. This difference prevented a joint effort for El Salvador."

However, he said, reforms were made in the agrarian, banking and foreign trade sectors, especially in the areas of coffee and sugar which we never opposed. Nevertheless, we did oppose the way in which these reforms have been implemented.

The president of the Salvadoran Chamber of Commerce and Industries said that to achieve economic recovery in El Salvador, it is necessary that landowners having less than 500 hectares be given the freedom to work their lands, rent them or sell parcels as they wish.

"There is no one who loves his country so much that he will agree to having others profit from his investment. This is logical and does not need to be explained," Lopez Abreu said. He added that an in-depth study of the results of the social reforms would be welcomed "since the results for the Salvadorans who are in the country are evident and clearly seen."

"One must admit that poverty has always existed in El Salvador, but after these reforms, the rich are less rich and the poor are even poorer," the business leader said.

Nevertheless, he added, as of 28 May, election day, "hope was reborn because President of the Republic Alvaro Magana has said that the unity between the government and the free enterprise sector is necessary to bring the country forward." Lopez Andreu said that this trust will bring back the Salvadoran money sent abroad because of the armed conflict and the reform. The trust will also help attract foreign investors who are familiar with the industriousness of the Salvadoran worker.

GUATEMALA

RIOS MONTT SAYS STATES OF EMERGENCY PLANNED

PA271846 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Efrain Rios Montt, president of the military government junta, has said that states of emergency will be established in specific areas of the country after the amnesty decree expires in approximately 30 days. Rios Montt stated this on referring to the amnesty decree and what is expected of it. The president of the military government junta made this statement during his participation in the symposium organized by the Association of Guatemalan Managers.

The top government official said he hopes that the amnesty decree will be interpreted as an act of faith and willingness to extend a hand to those who have been involved in subversion and violated the law. Nevertheless, he said, in 30 days, that is, when the amnesty decree expires, the government could establish states of emergency in specific areas of the national territory. It will be then that the subversives who have not accepted the amnesty decree will discover that they have made a mistake.

JUNTA MEMBER GORDILLO AGAIN CALLS FOR CONCORD

PA270438 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Col Francisco Luis Gordillo, member of the government junta, today issued his second message on national concord, in which he expressed his views. On this occasion, the colonel said he was speaking as member of the three-man junta.

Colonel Gordillo maintained that, aside from being the product of an immediate need, the 23 March movement was also the product of an imperative need at a critical moment in history. The army, Gordillo continued, is aware that the institutional order was broken on 23 March, but he added that it was necessary to do so in an effort to restore democracy.

The ranking military officer said the military regime, represented by the government junta, is nationalist and opposed to all forms of discrimination. We Guatemalans are one, although we may have various expressions, he noted.

The guerrillas must realize that the peasants support the military government, Gordillo declared. This is demonstrated by the peasant's courageous and patriotic attitude, which provoked the subversives to massacre entire towns in a desperate and criminal act. Their action was meant to undermine the patriotic support of the population which offers and will continue to offer its cooperation to the army in the strife-town areas.

The army would never attack or murder the peasants, Colonel Gordillo said in his message, because the army exists by and for the peasants and it would never engage in the dastardly actions of the foreign agents who are trying to destroy our nation. He gave assurances that, in the near future and with the support of the towns and communities, the army personnel meeting the challenge of national subversion will establish the desired peace in Guatemala.

NEW FOREIGN MINISTER TAKES FIRM STAND ON BELIZE

PA271608 Guatemala City Trecevision in Spanish 0130 GMT 26 May 82

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpts] The military junta has issued an official note to announce that Eduardo Castillo Arriola will replace Alfonso Alonso Lima as Guatemalan foreign relations minister.

The new Guatemalan foreign minister has issued the following initial statement to the local and international press:

"I am personally convinced that these are historic times for Guatemala and that we must take advantage of the junta's praiseworthy offer to salvage the country's institutions and to place it on the path toward effective democracy."

The new foreign minister said the government may propose the recovery of Belize, which was unilaterally declared independent last year. Castillo said the following on this: "Regarding the Belize issue, I feel that the bases of agreement are now completely void because one of the parties -- England -- failed to comply with them and, instead, treacherously granted independence to Belize.

"I outlined Guatemala's official position on behalf of our government at the General Assembly session during which Belize was declared independent. Guatemala categorically voted against independence and reserved its rights over Belize's entire territory."

Castillo said that the present government will strive to achieve a just solution to the case, but on a new basis. He said: "I feel that the junta, like any other government, and more specifically [word indistinct] will look for a just solution but not under previous conditions which, in my opinion, are obsolete and absolutely null."

Shortly after assuming office, the foreign minister met with Gen Efrain Rios Montt, president of the ruling military junta, for a briefing on our country's position. He said Guatemala will show its solidarity with Argentina and its patriotic struggle to recover the Malvinas Archipelago, located in the South Atlantic.

Castillo added that Guatemala takes this position because it feels bound to respect all agreements, treaties and pacts it has signed with other members of the international community.

Turning to other topics, Castillo said that the enactment of the decree granting amnesty to the members of subversive movements is a sound step but reserved his opinion about its ultimate effectiveness.

NICARAGUA

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE REPORTS ON FLOOD DAMAGE

PA271550 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 82

[Excerpts] The country's critical situation and the lack of material resources with which to face it has forced the government to seek help from friendly governments and charitable international organizations. This was announced by the National Emergency Committee today at noon in a press conference.

Domestic Trade Minister Dionisio Marenco said that in view of the refugee situation, food reserves would be enough for 3 months. This would include spending 6 or 7 million cordobas per month.

At noon today, during a press conference at the government house, the National Emergency Committee reported on the human and property losses caused by heavy rains in the country. The committee is formed by the government junta, Health Ministry, Nicaraguan Social Security and Welfare Institute, Domestic Trade Ministry and a delegate from the FSLN departmental committee; as well as by organizations such as the Episcopal Conference, Red Cross, Union of Journalists of Nicaragua, National Council for Higher Education and Confederation of Nicaraguan Professional Associations.

Companero Reynaldo Antonio Tefel, director of the Nicaraguan Social Security and Welfare Institute, will be the coordinator for this committee and he will be the only person responsible for receiving donations for the victims.

During the conference, Companero Sergio Ramirez calculated our economic losses as 1 billion cordobas.

[Begin Ramirez recording] Nicaragua, as we all know, is a poor country with very few material resources. After the earthquake and since the war of liberation, Nicaragua has made enormous efforts to rebuild and organize its economy. Now we face this natural disaster which has caused losses. According to initial reports, the losses are in the realm of 1 billion cordobas.

Our agricultural production has been seriously hurt by the flooding of fields that were ready to be sown, the paralyzing of the last phase of the sugar cane harvest, and the destruction of an animal husbandry project. The damage to access roads prevents us from transporting farm products, particularly from transporting milk to the Pacific area in general and Managua in particular, and paralyzes agricultural activity.

Our industries have also been affected: Warehouses and production plants have been flooded, raw materials and finished products have been destroyed, factory machinery has been damaged and production at production centers has been halted or slowed due to the absence of many workers.

Also, the country's physical infrastructure has been heavily damaged with the destruction of drainage and sewer systems; the damaging of water lines in rural areas and the suspension of water service in rural cities because of the destruction of the main line; the damaging of flood control canals, the country's asphalt roads and roadbeds.

This infrastructure has also been affected by the destruction of rural and access roads, the isolation of entire rural zones, the destruction of long stretches of railways, the damage to the infrastructure of ports and hospitals -- as in the case of the Chinandega hospital and Managua's Western Polytechnical hospital, which had to be completely evacuated. Public buildings, schools and houses have also been damaged. Hundreds of humble houses in the country's porrest sectors have been flooded. We have had to evacuate entire neighborhoods in certain cities and towns throughout the country. We have many refugees living under very bad conditions in the country's cities. According to estimates, the flood victims amount to approximately 17,000, but the situation leads us to believe that the number of refugees is well over 35,000.

We are involved in very special efforts to prevent epidemics, which may result from the poor conditions of the refugees. We must give adequate protection to the children who have been evacuated. We urgently need medicines, blankets, clothing in food.

We have faced this situation with the support of the national Red Cross and our civil defense organizations, which were organized for a military emergency and which are effectively responding to the test.

We are also counting on the active participation of mass organizations, which are devoting their efforts to helping the homeless people and showing that organizing the population is the only way to face situations such as this. [end Ramirez recording]

The Interior Ministry reported that, in view of these floods, the Sandinist police drafted a plan to increase the effectiveness in the evacuation and vigilance of the affected sectors. This plan basically includes reinforcing patrols and centralizing the forces in flooded areas. The policemen have fulfilled these duties despite the risks and dangers that they may be facing.

ROBELO SAYS PROPERTY CONFISCATION NO SURPRISE

PA271603 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0056 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] San Jose, 26 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Today, Alfonso Robelo Callejas, Nicaraguan opposition leader, told ACAN-EFE that the confiscation of his properties by the Sandinist government did not surprise him. Robelo pointed out that what did surprise him was that his residence did not become part of "the collection that the Sandinist commanders have."

Robelo added that "it seems as if Eden Pastora's accusations are taking effect" because, "instead of being assigned to Tomas Borge, Bayardo Arce or another commander as was customary," the house will become the headquarters of the National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen [UNAG].

Robelo and his family have moved to San Jose. Robelo was a member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, and he is president of the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN). Robelo says that the Sandinist commanders made a mistake because he does not own the farm and the oil factory that they confiscated. The political leader pointed out that the mistake was made "because things are not thoroughly investigated in Nicaragua; they are done illegally, arbitrarily."

The Nicaraguan politician and businessman cheers himself up by thinking that the confiscation of his properties is "only temporary, a loan" because "the time will come when justice will prevail in Nicaragua."

MORA HERMAN ON U.S. PLANS FOR FALKLANDS

FL270134 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 82

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Text] The Malvinas conflict has entered the final stage with stepped-up fighting and an alarming increase in the blood quota exacted by military confrontations. The Argentine pilots yesterday carried out a heroic deed in launching a massive attack on the British fleet and caused severe losses to the imperial power. The British attack on the Malvinas, which would not be possible without the complicity, participation and support of the U.S. Government, lays bare the true essence of imperialism and calls into question a number of schemes which were previously accepted.

What is the use of the OAS, its constitutional charter and its complementary instrument, the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR? Both the charter and the TIAR were instruments inspired and created by Washington, presumably for the protection of OAS members, but they have only been good for U.S. imperialist domination of those countries. Those instruments were used against the Guatemalan people in 1954, against Cuba following the triumph of the revolution, and against the Dominican Republic in 1965. This proved that both the OAS and the TIAR had been created to legalize Yankee intervention on this continent.

Now the United States opposes the use of the OAS and the TIAR in the Malvinas Islands and openly sides with the extracontinental power attacking a country of our America. Great Britain occupied the Malvinas illegally and by force in 1833 when Argentina was already independent and exercises sovereignty over the archipelago, For 149 years the Argentines have asked for the return of this territory which belongs to them. They finally recovered it on 2 April without spilling a drop of blood.

The United States is using the British and its friend, Margaret Thatcher, in the Malvinas conflict in its long-term plans for the area. The U.S.' geopolitical objective is to use the Malvinas as a base for the South Atlantic treaty which it has always wanted to set up and which would be born with Great Britain's possession of the islands and with NATO countries as its members. The existence of large oil and natural gas deposits off the shores of the Malvinas and the Georgias must not be ruled out.

Even at the cost of the blood of many of its children, Argentina has found in the conflict the strength of its national unity, which should be strengthened further with the establishment of an emergency government open to all political sectors as the progressive forces of that country are asking for. In addition, this aggression by imperialism, which is trying to hang on to imperial schemes of the past, has helped awaken continental unity, that unity which Bolivar and Marti dreamed of to make America one big and free fatherland, safe from the claws of U.S. imperialism.

AGENDA OF NONALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU MEETING

FL271920 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] A meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau will open Monday in our country. This meeting, which will close on 4 June, is the most important one scheduled in advance of the seventh summit meeting to be held in Baghdad in September 1982.

The meeting's major goals include an analysis of the current international situation and an evaluation of the movement's work since the ministerial meeting held in New Delhi in February 1981.

The meeting will examine the fulfillment of the decisions and agreements reached at the sixth summit meeting and the work carried out by the Coordinating Bureau as the movement's executive organ. The meeting's agenda also includes an analysis of the new members proposed. In addition, the Iraqi representatives will present a report on the preparations for the seventh summit meeting.

This important event, which will be held in the Conventions Palace in Havana, will be attended by the ministers of some 40 countries, members of the movement, who will be in charge of preparing the documents that the chiefs of state who attend the Baghdad summit meeting must analyze. A political and an economic declaration, as well as a document on disarmament, which due to its characteristics is one of the most important, are among the draft documents for this event. It is evident that since the days of the sixth summit conference held in September 1979, world events have occurred in such a way that the problems facing the movement have become numerous.

The topics that this meeting must unavoidably discuss include Namibia and South Africa; the Middle East situation and the Palestinian people's cause; the situation in Central America and the Caribbean; and U.S. imperialism's increasing aggressiveness. The world economic crisis and the search for a new international economic order will also be discussed at this meeting on the Nonaligned Movement's Coordinating Bureau.

FIDEL CASTRO, MACHEL ARRIVE AT ISLE OF YOUTH

FL271905 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Thousands of Isle of Youth workers, students and people in general have expressed their sympathy and solidarity to Marshal Samora Moises Machel, president of the Frelimo Party and of the People's Republic of Mozambique, who arrived on the island accompanied by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. At exactly 0900 this morning the helicopter carrying the leaders of Mozambique and Cuba touched down at Nueva Gerona airport and immediately the Cuban and Mozambican flags began to be waved in a show of sympathy and affection for the fraternal African country.

They were met at the airport by Armando Manresa Gonzalez, alternate member of the Central Committee and first secretary of the party in the special municipality; and Jorge Antelo, president of people's government municipal assembly, and other leaders of the party, the government and mass organizations.

After greeting the reception committee and the people gathered at the air terminal's observation deck, Machel, Fidel and Manresa boarded an open jeep to begin a tour through the main streets of Nueva Gerona where thousands of people paid a warm and enthusiastic reception to the motorcade as it passed through the main avenues.

During its stay in the Isle of Youth, the high level Mozambican delegation will tour economic and cultural centers of interest and will hold a meeting with the more than 2,300 Mozambican students attending four schools donated by the revolutionary government.

VISIT BY GUYANESE FOREIGN MINISTER CONTINUES

Reception for Jackson

FL251644 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 May 82

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has held a cocktail reception for Guyanese Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson and the delegation accompanying him on his official visit to Cuba. During the reception the diplomatic corps accredited to Cuba greeted the Guyanese Foreign Minister.

Rashleigh Jackson Interviewed

FL261640 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 May 82

[Interview with Guyanese Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson by Jose Arteaga during "Revista de la Manana" program in Havana -- live; questions in Spanish, answers in English, with simultaneous translation]

[Text] [Question] We would like to know, Mr Jackson, your opinion about the role played by Cuba as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement.

[Answer] Thank you very much. I think we recall with great pride that in 1979 the summit conference of the Nonaligned Movement of countries was held for the first time in Latin America, in Havana, Cuba. As a result of that exercise, Cuba, the host country, became the chairman of the movement and has been the president ever since.

The period between 1979 and now has been a period of great tension for all society. We reassess positively highly the role played by Cuba as president of the movement during this period, not only in pursuit of the principles and policies of nonalignment, but also seeking at all times to attain the unity and solidarity of the movement.

We would say that the chairman has conducted the business of the movement with great skill and with integrity, and from Guyana we feel honored to be a member of the [Coordinating] Bureau at this particularly important time for the movement.

[Question] We know, Mr Jackson, that you have been in Cuba on several occasions. We would like to know your impressions on this visit to our country.

[Answer] Well, as you say, I'm not a new visitor to Cuba. I've been here on several occasions since 1974. On each occasion, I continue to be more and more impressed by the significant progress made by the Cuban revolution, manifested in many social, economic and political activities.

The purpose of my visit on this occasion is to have an opportunity to discuss our bilateral relations with my colleague. It's a visit in return to one that he paid, that Malmierca paid to Guyana in January 1981, and for us to deal with preparations for the Coordinating Bureau meeting. The discussions we've had have been highly successful, both from the bilateral standpoint and in relation to the Movement of Nonaligned Countries. I hope that in the days to come we can continue to exchange views on a number of aspects.

[Question] Thank you for your statements for this program.

CHILEAN MIR LEADER ANDRES PASCAL ALLENDE ARRIVES

PA271710 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Andres Pascal Allende, secretary general of Chile's Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR], has arrived in Havana from Mexico after secretly leaving Chile. For almost 4 years he has been directing the struggles of that political organization in Chile.

In a statement to Radio Havana in the Jose Marti Airport, that Chilean revolutionary leader expressed his satisfaction on once again visiting Cuba. He said that Chile is currently experiencing a deep economic and social crisis that has led large sectors of society to join the struggle against the military dictatorship. Andres Pascal Allende stated that the objective of his departure from Chile is to contribute to strengthening unity among the forces that are struggling against the military regime.

He said that in Mexico he was able to confirm that this unity is advancing and gaining strength among the main Chilean leftwing political parties.

The MIR secretary general was welcomed on his arrival in Havana by Manuel Pinerio, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and chief of its Americas Department.

Reports on Resistance

FL272357 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2334 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Pascal Allende, the secretary general of Chile's Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR, has said that clandestine and armed resistance against the Chilean dictatorship has spread in recent months. In an exclusive interview for Radio Reloj, Pascal Allende said that a profound economic and social crisis has recently broken out in Chile which has led to the rapprochement, the unity of road segments of the population. He said that even people who belong to the petite and middle bourgeoisie and until recently supported Pinochet had grown aware of the nature of the dictatorship's antipopular policy. Allende said that the situation the country is experiencing makes it possible to move more rapidly, to take longer steps in the struggle against the dictatorship.

Pascal Allende reported that he will be abroad [as heard] for only a short time because he has to visit other friendly and brother countries to promote solidarity with the struggle of the Chilean people. He went on to disclose that the objective of his trip abroad is to meet with members of the Chilean left and several parties who are presently out of Chile.

Allende said that Chile is going through a time that entails great prospects for the struggle. He said he was very happy to be in Cuba again because Cuba had always supported the struggle of the Chilean people.

RODRIGUEZ RECEIVES GRENADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

FL270040 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodrigues, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, received Grenadian Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman at noon today. The most important international issues and bilateral relations between Cuba and Grenada were discussed at the meeting, which was attended by Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon. Special attention was given to the situation in the Malvinas and to the role of Latin American countries in this context, as well as preparations for the forthcoming meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau.

GRANMA REPORTS DELAY IN SUGARCANE SOWING

FL271635 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] According to a report published today by the newspaper GRANMA, the sowing of sugarcane for the spring season is markedly delayed throughout the country.

The number of caballerias accumulated until 25 May was 8,145, while this month's work plan calls for a total of 14,650 caballerias. These figures indicate that only 56 percent of the spring sowing has been completed. GRANMA, therefore, notes that the provinces must make an extraordinary effort during the remaining days of May and the first days of June.

PRESIDENT-ELECT TO VISIT MEXICO, VENEZUELA

PA261552 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2207 GMT 25 May 82

[By Miguel Franjul]

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo, 25 May (LATIN-REUTER) -- President-elect Salvador Jorge Blanco announced today that he will visit Mexico and Venezuela to negotiate new terms for the purchase of oil.

The Dominican Republic buys oil from these countries under the "San Jose agreement," spending $55 million on it, almost 44 percent of its budget, annually.

Jorge Blanco did not specify the dates of the visits but he considers them vital for the future of the Dominican economy, since the government's principal expense is for the purchase of oil from Venezuela and Mexico. He said that these visits will be made in the "new style" that will characterize his 4-year administration beginning 16 August.

Under this "new style" Jorge Blanco will implement a so-called 100-day emergency plan to encourage private investment and to drastically decrease government spending. It is estimated that 70 percent of current expenses are used to maintain the state bureaucracy, leaving only 30 percent for investment and development. This chronic situation forced Antonio Guzman's outgoing administration to obtain foreign loans and to reprogram government investments. it is estimated that the Dominican Republic's foreign debt is now approximately $2 billion.

Jorge Blanco ordered a team of advisers to draft measures to deal with this situation. Milton Messina, one of his principal economic advisers, said that a freeze on government hiring will be imposed, together with salary cuts for the high-ranking government officials.

Jorge Blanco also announced that several legislative and financial measures are being drafted to invigorate the economy. The president-elect will have the advantage of controlling the congress, with 63 seats out of 120 in the lower house and 18 of the 27 Senate seats.

ARMY DECLARES SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT

PA231717 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2136 GMT 21 May 82

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo, 21 May (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Dominican Armed Forces today declared their complete support for and loyalty to President-elect Salvador Jorge Blanco, who will take office in 3 months.

The declaration is contained in a communique signed by Armed Forces Secretary Lt Gen Mario Imbert McGregor and by the leaders of all of the branches of the armed forces, issued a few hours before the electoral tribunal declared Jorge Blanco president-elect.

The future president immediately thanked the armed forces for having expressed their support prior to the initiation of his 4-year term on 16 August.

He said that he would dedicate himself to consolidating the professionalism of the armed forces and would work for the country's welfare.

The armed forces expressed recognition of the work accomplished by President Antonio Guzman's outgoing administration and asked Jorge to continue with the military institutionalization provided for by the law, which was respected by his predecessor. At the same time, the armed forces agreed to fight for the preservation of democracy, political stability and public order and congratulated the voters on their conduct in the election on Sunday.

URUGUAY

LONDON CONFIRMS FREE NAVIGATION IN RIVER PLATE

PY272138 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] The UK has informed our country that the British task force in the South Atlantic is not a threat to navigation in the River Plate. A spokesman for the British Foreign Ministry said in London today that a message in this regard was sent to our capital at the beginning of this week. However, news agencies do not specify if the message was an answer to an official concern expressed by the Uruguayan Government.

The Foreign Office said Uruguay has received guarantees that Great Britain does not plan any military activity within the line along the River Plate specified in the 1973 treaty.

Ships Await Grain

PY280908 Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 20 May 82 p 6

[Excerpt] Approximately 60 grain ships are waiting in Uruguayan waters for the Anglo-Argentine conflict over the Malvinas Islands be resolved so they can enter the port of Buenos Aires and load Argentine grain for the USSR. Uruguayan maritime sources say the ships, chartered by the Soviet Government through Greek shipping agents, are anchored in the access channel to the River Plate following the decision by Lloyds to cancel insurance on ships operating in Argentine waters. The majority of the ships, under Liberian flags, are bound for Buenos Aires.

It was also learned that from the beach at Montevideo one can observe a long row of ships waiting for orders from their agents to continue their trips. According to the Uruguayan sources, the Argentine Government has offered to insure the ships and their cargoes while they cross the "exclusion area." The last ship carrying grain to the USSR left Buenos Aires last Friday.

VENEZUELA

PRESIDENT RULES OUT BREAKING RELATIONS WITH UK

PA271839 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1347 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Caracas, 27 May (LATIN-REUTER) -- President Luis Herrera Campins discounted the possibility of a break in diplomatic relations with the United Kingdom as a result of the Malvinas conflict, in which Venezuela has staunchly supported Argentina. In a talk with newsmen last night, Herrera said he agrees with an opposition leader, who had said that although Venezuela supports Argentina, this does not mean it is an enemy of the United Kingdom.

Referring directly to the United Kingdom's role in the conflict, he said that "it is basically the attitude of a government and not of the people, and we hope fervently that the British Government will change so that the violent hostilities will end" in the South Atlantic.

Last week a ministry source said Venezuela was one of the Latin American countries involved in consultations to adopt diplomatic reprisals against the United Kingdom. The source said these reprisals could include the withdrawal of ambassadors from the United Kingdom or a complete break in relations with that country if the situation in the South Atlantic deteriorates. The sources noted that these consultations have continued this week, but so far without results.